

TIER 3

HYBRID CASH BALANCE PLAN

for members who began participating January 1, 2014 and after





PLAN ADMINISTRATION

The Commonwealth of Kentucky provides retirement benefits for state and county employees through the Kentucky Retirement Systems (KRS). KRS is governed by a Board of Trustees and consists of three separate retirement systems:



Kentucky Employees Retirement System (KERS)

Hazardous and Nonhazardous

Established July 1, 1956 for state employees. Governed by Kentucky Revised Statutes 61.510 through 61.705.



County Employees Retirement System (CERS)

Hazardous and Nonhazardous

Established July 1, 1958 for local government and classified school board employees. Governed by Kentucky Revised Statutes 78.510 through 78.852.



State Police Retirement System (SPRS)

Established July 1, 1958 for uniformed Kentucky State Police officers. Governed by Kentucky Revised Statutes 16.505 through 16.652.

In addition to the Systems' statutory framework, plan administration is guided by Chapter 105 of the Kentucky Administrative Regulations. Copies of the Kentucky Revised Statutes may be available at public libraries. Unofficial copies of the statutes and Kentucky Administrative Regulations can be found on the Kentucky Legislative Research Commission's web site, <http://lrc.ky.gov>. **The systems administered by Kentucky Retirement Systems are qualified governmental retirement plans pursuant to IRC 401(a).**



Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00am - 4:30pm



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*Incoming email is not secure.
Use only for general questions.*



Our Website

<https://kyret.ky.gov>



www.facebook.com/kyretirement



<https://myretirement.ky.gov>

Access your account online.
See page 18 for more info.

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Hybrid Cash Balance Plan Guide

for members who began participating January 1, 2014 and after

Tier 3

KRS currently administers three different pension benefit tiers within our defined benefit plans. The Hybrid Cash Balance plan was established as part of Senate Bill 2, which was enacted by the Kentucky General Assembly during its 2013 Regular Session. We refer to this as Tier 3 Benefits.

This guide introduces you to the Cash Balance plan and explains benefits for members who begin participating January 1, 2014 and after.

This guide is a companion publication to KRS' Summary Plan Description. For a comprehensive overview of our plans, refer to the Summary Plan Description published at <https://kyret.ky.gov>.

What is the Hybrid Cash Balance Plan?

The Hybrid Cash Balance Plan is for members who began participation on or after January 1, 2014. A Cash Balance Plan is known as a hybrid plan because it has characteristics of both a defined benefit plan and a defined contribution plan. A Cash Balance Plan resembles a defined contribution plan because it determines the value of benefits for each participant based on individual accounts. However, the assets of the plan remain in a single investment pool like a traditional defined benefit plan. A Cash Balance Plan resembles a defined benefit plan since it uses a specific formula to determine benefits.

Who is eligible?

All regular full-time employees who began participation with KRS on or after January 1, 2014 contribute to the Cash Balance Plan. Your participation in the plan is mandatory unless you are a non-participating employee. Employment classifications that are non-participating include part-time, seasonal, temporary, probationary (CERS only), interim, emergency, and independent contractors.

How does it work?

Members and employers contribute a specified amount into the member's account. The account earns a guaranteed amount of interest at the end of each fiscal year. If the member has participated in the plan during the fiscal year, there may be an additional interest credit added to the member's account depending on KRS' investment returns. All interest is paid on the preceding year's balance so there is no interest paid in the member's first year.

When a member is eligible to retire, the benefit is calculated based on the member's accumulated account balance. A member earns service credit for each month they contribute to the Cash Balance Plan. Once a member obtains 60 months of service credit, the member is considered vested. Being vested changes the level of benefits to which you are entitled.

RETIREMENT ACCOUNT

MEMBER CONTRIBUTION

Tier 3 members of the Cash Balance plan contribute a set percentage of their creditable compensation each month to their own account as required by Kentucky law:

Nonhazardous Members

5% of creditable compensation

Hazardous Members - 8% of creditable compensation

All Members - 1% to the health insurance fund which is not credited to the individual account and is not refundable

The example below shows how a member's account is credited each month for the **member contribution** and the **Employer Pay Credit**.

Nonhazardous Member		
Monthly Salary	5% Member Contributions	4% Employer Pay Credit
\$2,500	\$125	\$100
Hazardous Member		
Monthly Salary	8% Member Contributions	7.5% Employer Pay Credit
\$2,500	\$200	\$187.50

How are the contributions invested?

Tier 3 members do not make their own investment decisions and do not bear the risk of investment losses. The assets of the plan remain in a single investment pool and the employer assumes all the investment risk. Even if the underlying investments lose value, the employer is still obligated to pay the required contribution so the plan can pay a benefit based on your individual account balance.

In other words, Tier 3 member's retirement account will never be reduced due to investment losses. The KRS Board of Trustees and its investment professionals are responsible for investment decisions that impact Tier 3 accounts.

The Board has established clearly defined investment policies, objectives and strategies for both the pension and insurance portfolios. The Board's investment policies and detailed monthly investment performance reports are published on our website at <https://kyret.ky.gov>.

EMPLOYER PAY CREDIT

The **Employer Contribution Rate** is recommended annually by the KRS Board of Trustees based on an actuarial valuation. The employer contributes a set percentage of the member's creditable compensation each month. This amount may be reflected on the member's paystub.

When KRS receives the employer contributions, an **Employer Pay Credit** is deposited to the member's account. If you are a nonhazardous member, your account is credited with a 4% Employer Pay Credit. If you are a hazardous member, your account is credited with a 7.5% Employer Pay Credit. The Employer Pay Credit represents a portion of the employer contribution.



● BASE INTEREST

Your account earns a base of 4% interest annually on both the member contributions and the Employer Pay Credit balance. Interest is credited to your account each June 30, based on your account balance from the preceding June 30. New members do not see interest credited in their first year since there is no prior year balance.

Over time, the value of your account can increase a great deal. Visit myretirement.ky.gov for more information. For more information about how to register for your online account, see page 18.

? What is Creditable Compensation?

Creditable compensation is used to calculate retirement benefits and includes all salary, wages, tips, and fees as a result of services performed for the employer, including time when you are on paid leave. It does not include payments for compensatory time paid to you.

● UPSIDE SHARING

Upside Sharing Interest is the additional interest credit that may be applied to a Tier 3 account.

Upside Sharing Interest is not guaranteed. The following conditions must be met before Upside Sharing Interest is credited to a member's account:

- » The system's geometric average net investment return for the last five years must exceed 4%.
- » The member must have been active and contributing in the fiscal year.

If a system's geometric average net investment return for the previous five years exceeds 4%, then the member's account will be credited with 75% of the amount of the return over 4%. The credit will be applied to the account balance as of June 30 of the previous year.

The following example illustrates how Upside Sharing Interest works. Remember, Upside Sharing Interest is an additional interest credit. Member accounts automatically earn 4% interest annually. In this example, the additional 2.63% Upside Sharing Interest credit means the total interest paid would be 6.63%.

The geometric average net investment return is calculated on an individual system basis (i.e. KERS, CERS and SPRS). It is possible that the Upside Sharing Interest percentage will differ from system to system. It is also possible that one system may get an Upside Sharing percentage, and another system would not.

Geometric average net return	7.5%
Base interest	- 4%
	3.5%
	X 75%
	2.63%
	+ 4%
Total Interest Paid	6.63%
	Upside Sharing Interest Credit
	Base Interest

How does my account earn interest & grow?

Your account earns 4% interest annually on both the member contributions and the Employer Pay Credit balance. Interest is credited to your account each June 30, based on your account balance from the preceding June 30. New members do not see interest credited in their first year since there is no prior year balance.

Over time, the value of your account can increase a great deal. You can view your account balance online at myretirement.ky.gov. See page 18 for more information.



The following examples have been created to illustrate how accounts grow with base interest. No Upside Sharing Interest is assumed. In the Nonhazardous example, John is age 65. In the Hazardous example, John is age 45.

If John is Nonhazardous... (and he started at age 40)

Years Worked	Member Contribution	Member Interest	Employer Pay Credit	Employer Interest	Accumulated Account Balance as of 6/30
1	\$1,750	\$0	\$1,400	\$0	\$3,150
2	\$1,750	\$70	\$1,400	\$56	\$6,426.00
5	\$1,750	\$297.25	\$1,400	\$237.80	\$17,061.42
10	\$1,750	\$740.79	\$1,400	\$592.64	\$37,819.24
15	\$1,750	\$1,280.43	\$1,400	\$1,024.35	\$63,074.30
20	\$1,750	\$1,936.98	\$1,400	\$1,549.59	\$93,800.92
25	\$1,750	\$2,735.78	\$1,400	\$2,188.63	\$131,184.61

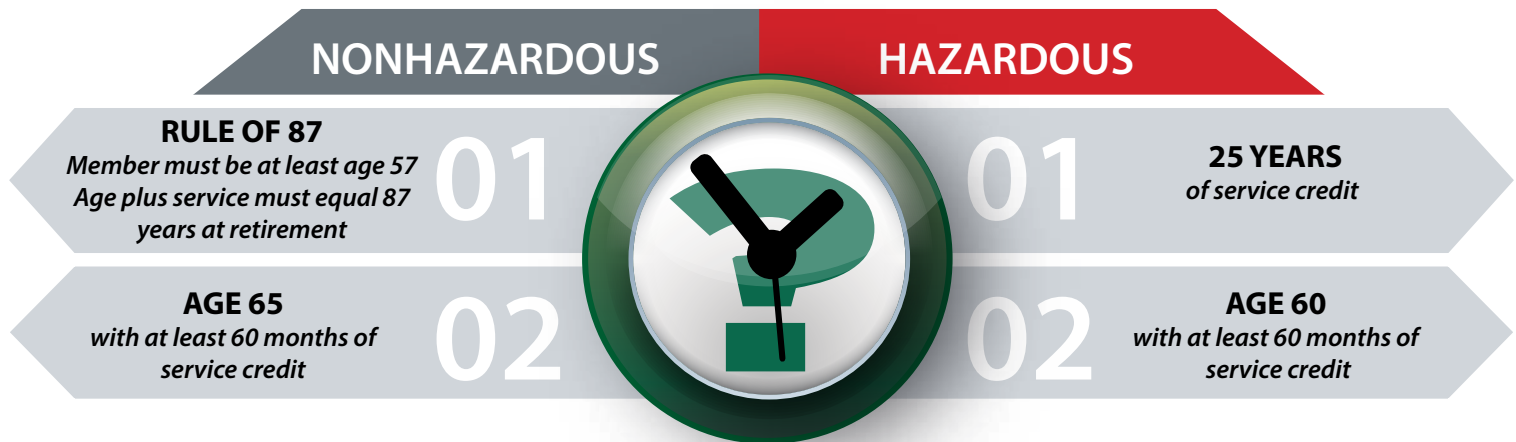
If John is Hazardous... (and he started at age 20)

1	\$2,800.00	\$0	\$2,625.00	\$0	\$5,425.00
2	\$2,800.00	\$111.99	\$2,625.00	\$105.01	\$11,067.00
5	\$2,800.00	\$475.58	\$2,625.00	\$445.90	\$29,383.55
10	\$2,800.00	\$1185.21	\$2,625.00	\$1111.26	\$65,133.13
15	\$2,800.00	\$2,048.58	\$2,625.00	\$1,920.76	\$108,627.96
20	\$2,800.00	\$3,099.01	\$2,625.00	\$2,905.65	\$161,546.08
25	\$2,800.00	\$4,377.01	\$2,625.00	\$4,103.92	\$225,929.05

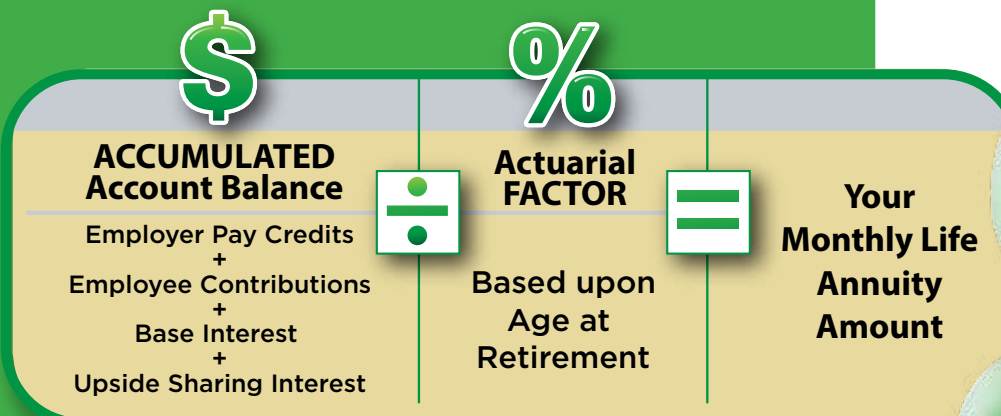
RETIREMENT QUALIFICATIONS

When can I retire?

Under the Tier 3 benefits plan, a member is not eligible to retire unless one of two requirements are met. There are no early, or reduced, retirement benefits for members of the Tier 3 benefits plan.



How is my benefit calculated?



Your accumulated account balance is divided by an actuarial factor to produce the monthly life annuity option. Your age at retirement and type of service (hazardous or nonhazardous) determine the actuarial factor. When retiring, a member is eligible for a monthly annuity until death.

Upon retirement, KRS provides various payment options which are based upon the calculation above, so that a retiring member can select a monthly benefit option best suited to the member's particular needs. Page 12 provides a description of the available payment options.



ACTUARIAL FACTORS

ACTUARIAL FACTORS

See charts for your actuarial factor based on your age at retirement.

NOTICE:
ACTUARIAL FACTORS
COULD CHANGE IN THE
FUTURE.

Accrued benefits are protected but the General Assembly could change future benefits if fiscal circumstances call for it. Visit our website for up-to-date information.



NONHAZARDOUS	
Age at Retirement	Actuarial Factor
57	137.092488
58	135.364728
59	133.553124
60	131.657064
61	129.677556
62	127.616868
63	125.480760
64	123.276648
65	121.004940
66	118.660464
67	116.246988
68	113.762472
69	111.195372
70	108.548856
71	105.832656
72	103.059396
73	100.222008
74	97.330272
75	94.391196
76	91.408068
77	88.380612
78	85.308852
79	82.195644
80	79.047132

HAZARDOUS	
Age at Retirement	Actuarial Factor
43	152.409012
44	151.534824
45	150.608352
46	149.627136
47	148.586484
48	147.483156
49	146.312856
50	145.071504
51	143.754360
52	142.374648
53	140.917824
54	139.380348
55	137.758668
56	136.062012
57	134.301180
58	132.455748
59	130.525296
60	128.510100
61	126.413556
62	124.238436
63	121.989684
64	119.673708
65	117.281868
66	114.815688
67	112.280052
68	109.662180
69	106.954128
70	104.167644
71	101.323236
72	98.410524
73	95.434344
74	92.405796
75	89.334240
76	86.227068
77	83.087640

BENEFIT CALCULATION EXAMPLES

NONHAZARDOUS

01 RULE OF 87 EXAMPLE

Service at Retirement	Accumulated Account Balance	Actuarial Factor Age 57	Monthly Life Annuity Amount
30 yrs	\$176,667.55	137.092488	\$1,288.67

02 AGE 65 EXAMPLE

Service at Retirement	Accumulated Account Balance	Actuarial Factor Age 65	Monthly Life Annuity Amount
20 yrs	\$93,800.95	121.004940	\$775.18
15 yrs	\$63,074.30	121.004940	\$521.25
10 yrs	\$37,819.24	121.004940	\$312.54



HAZARDOUS

01 25 YEARS EXAMPLE

Service at Retirement	Accumulated Account Balance	Actuarial Factor Age 45	Monthly Life Annuity Amount
25 yrs	\$225,929.05	150.608352	\$1,500.11

02 AGE 60 EXAMPLE

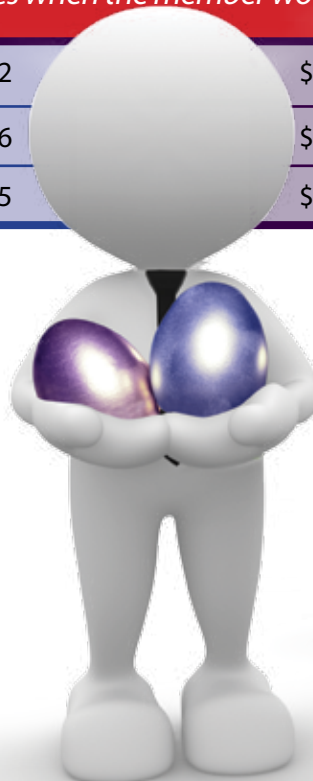
Service at Retirement	Accumulated Account Balance	Actuarial Factor Age 60	Monthly Life Annuity Amount
20 yrs	\$161,546.08	128.510100	\$1,257.07
15 yrs	\$108,627.96	128.510100	\$845.29
10 yrs	\$65,133.13	128.510100	\$506.83



UPSIDE SHARING EXAMPLES

The examples below illustrate the range of return a Tier 3 member may expect to see in their accumulated account balance and final monthly benefit. Over the course of a career, members are likely to have a mixed return. These examples are intended only to demonstrate the possible range.

BASE INTEREST 4% <i>without Upside Sharing Interest</i> This demonstrates an account where no Upside Sharing Interest was applied, this is the minimum.			VS	BASE INTEREST 4% + 2.63% <i>Upside Sharing Interest</i> This demonstrates the account balance growth possible with a continuously healthy market return.	
Service at Retirement	Accumulated Account Balance	Monthly Life Annuity Amount		Accumulated Account Balance	Monthly Life Annuity Amount
NONHAZARDOUS: <i>This example is a nonhazardous member whose retired at age 65. You can see how the monthly benefit increases when the member works longer.</i>					
20 yrs	\$93,800.95	\$775.18			\$123,696.19
25 years	\$131,184.61	\$1084.13	\$188,827.41		\$1,560.49
30 years	\$176,667.55	\$1,460.00	\$278,211.51		\$2,299.17
HAZARDOUS: <i>This example is a hazardous member whose participation date began at age 25. You can see how the monthly benefit increases when the member works longer.</i>					
20 yrs	\$161,546.08	\$1,072.62		\$213,502.50	\$1,417.60
25 years	\$225,929.05	\$1,557.36		\$325,202.77	\$2,241.67
30 years	\$304,260.79	\$2,208.65		\$479,142.05	\$3,478.13





What if I leave my job?

OPTION 1: *Keep your money at KRS*

Your account will continue to earn 4% interest on the accumulated account balance. However, if you are no longer contributing, your account will not be eligible for any Upside Sharing Interest.

If you change jobs and your new employer is a participating agency with KRS, you and your new employer will contribute to your existing account and you will continue to accrue service credit.

If you are vested (60 months of service) when you leave your job, you may apply for retirement benefits when eligible and choose to receive a lifetime monthly benefit.

If John kept his money with KRS until retirement eligibility:

Example: John began participating at age 30 and worked for 10 years in the KRS system with a \$35,000 annual salary. This example does not show Upside Sharing Interest, which does not accumulate for the fiscal years a member does not contribute in all 12 months.

Service	Accumulated Account Balance	Actuarial Factor Age 65	Monthly Life Annuity Amount
10 yrs	\$68,110.31	121.004940	\$562.87

OPTION 2: *Withdraw your account*

IF YOU TAKE A VESTED REFUND, YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A KRS RETIREMENT PLAN IN THE FUTURE.

Vested refund (60+ months of service): Members who are vested are eligible for a refund of their accumulated account balance. The accumulated account balance is the total of all member contributions, Employer Pay Credits, and all interest credited to both amounts.

Non-vested refund (less than 60 months of service): Members who are not vested are eligible for a refund of the member portion of the account balance. This includes the member's contribution, interest, and Upside Sharing Interest. A non-vested refund does not include the Employer Pay Credits, Upside Sharing Interest, or the interest on the pay credit balance.

Refunds from your KRS account may be paid directly to you or can be rolled over to another qualified retirement plan. If you elect to receive a direct payment, KRS is required to withhold 20% for federal income taxes. The amount withheld is not a penalty tax and will apply toward your federal tax liability for the year in which the refund is issued. Additional taxes due to age or other factors may apply if you choose to receive a direct payment of your refund.

OPTION 3: *Retire if you're eligible*

Retirement eligibility is dependent upon your age and years of service. See page 7 for more information.



What are My Payment Options?

Noteworthy

If a beneficiary who is not your spouse is selected at the time of retirement, certain payment options may not be available depending on the age difference between you and your beneficiary.

Annuity

This option provides a monthly benefit to the member until death. The annuity does not provide a benefit to the beneficiary after the member's death. It provides the highest monthly lifetime benefit. If you pass away before receiving an amount equal to your accumulated account balance at the time of retirement, your beneficiary will receive any remaining balance of your accumulated contributions (i.e. member contributions and interest).

Life with 10 Years Certain

This option is available for members who are age 75 or younger at retirement. This option guarantees payments for a 120 month period, which begins when the member retires. If the member dies before 120 payments have been made, the beneficiary will receive the remaining payments. If the member survives past the 120 payments, the same monthly benefit continues to the member for life, but the beneficiary is no longer eligible for benefits upon the member's death.

Life with 15 Years Certain

This option is available for members who are age 67 or younger at retirement. This option guarantees payments for a 180 month period, which begins when the member retires. If the member dies before 180 payments have been made, the beneficiary will receive the remaining payments. If the member survives past the 180 payments, the same monthly benefit continues to the member for life, but the beneficiary is no longer eligible for benefits upon the member's death.

Life with 20 Years Certain

This option is available for members who are age 61 or younger at retirement. This option guarantees payments for a 240 month period, which begins when the member retires. If the member dies before 240 payments have been made, the beneficiary will receive the remaining payments. If the member survives past the 240 payments, the same monthly benefit continues to the member for life, but the beneficiary is no longer eligible for benefits upon the member's death.

Survivorship 100%

This option guarantees a monthly benefit to the member for the member's lifetime. If the member dies before the beneficiary, the beneficiary is eligible for the same monthly benefit until death.



Survivorship 66 2/3%

This option guarantees a monthly benefit to the member for the member's lifetime. If the member dies before the beneficiary, the beneficiary is eligible for a monthly benefit equal to 66 2/3% of the member's monthly benefit until death.

Survivorship 50%

This option guarantees a monthly benefit to the member for the member's lifetime. If the member dies before the beneficiary, the beneficiary is eligible for a monthly benefit equal to 50% of the member's monthly benefit until death.

Pop-Up

This option guarantees a monthly benefit to the member for the member's lifetime. If the member dies before the beneficiary, the beneficiary is eligible for the same monthly benefit until death; however, if the beneficiary dies before the member, the member's monthly benefit "Pops-Up," or increases, to the amount under the Annuity option. The member's benefit will also Pop-Up if the member's beneficiary is a spouse and they become divorced.

Social Security adjustment (without survivor rights)

A member age 62 or younger may elect to take a larger monthly payment until reaching age 62, when they may be eligible for Social Security. The monthly benefit will be reduced the month following the member's 62nd birthday. This option allows the member to draw a larger benefit until age 62. This option does not affect the amount of Social Security that the member will receive. A beneficiary is not eligible for benefits if the member dies.

Social Security adjustment (with survivor rights)

This option provides the same benefits as the Social Security adjustment option without survivor rights. In addition, it guarantees the same benefit to the beneficiary if the member dies. If the member dies before age 62, the beneficiary draws the higher payment until the member would have become age 62. Thereafter, the beneficiary will receive the same reduced monthly benefit that the member would have received.

Lump Sum

This option provides a one-time lump sum refund. Members who are vested are eligible for a refund of their accumulated account balance. The accumulated account balance is the total of all member contributions, Employer Pay Credits, and all interest paid on both amounts.





Can I Purchase Additional Service Credit?

Under Tier 3, there are six different types of service that a member may purchase:

1. Recontribution of Refund

A member currently participating in one of the state administered retirement systems who has taken a refund of retirement contributions for previous employment may regain the service lost by paying the amount of contributions withdrawn plus interest calculated from the time of withdrawal. The member must work for at least six months to validate the purchase. A recontribution of a refund will not alter the member's participation date.

2. Omitted Service

If a member worked in a participating position and, due to some oversight, contributions were not reported to KRS, the member can purchase those months of service or missing contributions. KRS will also bill the employer for missing employer contributions. Once KRS receives both the member and employer contributions, KRS will reinstate the original participation date for that service.

3. Omitted with Interest

If you previously received a cost for Omitted service and did not act on that cost by the due date, you may request a recalculation. The recalculation will include interest as of the date of the original cost. Once KRS receives both the member and employer contributions, KRS will reinstate the original participation date for that service.

4. Military Omitted

If a member was called to active duty military, the member can purchase the missing months of service. The cost is based on the contributions the member would have paid had they been participating during that time. The member's employer also must pay the missing employer contributions.

5. USERRA (*Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act*)

Allows a member to purchase military service in excess of six years if certain conditions are met.

6. Decompression

If a member returns from military leave and does not immediately return to work, the member can purchase up to ninety days between the date of discharge and return to employment. The employer also must pay the employer portion for this period of time.



GOOD TO KNOW

Are my benefits protected?

Accrued benefits are protected but the General Assembly could change future benefits if required by fiscal circumstances.

Disability Benefits

If you become disabled during the course of your employment, you may be eligible to apply for disability retirement benefits. If approved, this option allows you to receive a monthly benefit before you reach retirement eligibility. For more information on disability benefits, please contact the KRS Disability and Death Division.

Beneficiary Designation

When you begin participating, ***you should file Form 2035 to designate a beneficiary*** for your retirement account. You may name principal and/or contingent beneficiary(ies) on this form. Your beneficiary will receive any benefits you may be eligible for if you die before you retire. You can change this designation at any time prior to retirement by filing a new Form 2035 with our office.

At retirement, you will designate one beneficiary for your retirement account on the Form 6000, Notification of Retirement. This is an important decision, because after your retirement date, you cannot change your beneficiary designation. If a beneficiary who is not your spouse is selected at the time of retirement, certain payment options may not be available depending on the age difference between you and your beneficiary.



BIG CHANGES IN LIFE

Make it a point to do a check up with your retirement when big events happen. It is recommended that you log on to Self Service and check your information at least once a year. Make sure your information is correct and current (email, phone, filing status, etc.).

Update your Form 2035-

Marriage - Now may be a good time to review your beneficiary designation. If you die without a beneficiary, your benefits will default to your estate.

Have a baby - In addition to your form 2035, you may want to speak with your Human Resources department to update other aspects of your benefits.

Divorce - A final divorce decree voids the designation of a spouse as beneficiary. If the divorce occurs after the first day of the month in which the retirement allowance has been issued by the State Treasurer, the retired member's estate becomes the beneficiary of the account. The member's estate will not be entitled to payments under a survivorship payment option. In the event of remarriage to the former spouse, the former spouse who was the named beneficiary on the member's form 6000 (notification of retirement) shall be reinstated as the member's beneficiary for the survivorship payment option previously chosen.

MORE INFORMATION

Noteworthy

The monthly insurance benefit has been increased annually by a 1.5% COLA since July 1, 2003 when the law changed.

The annual increase is cumulative and continues to accrue after the member's retirement.

Health Insurance

You may be eligible for health insurance from KRS when you retire. To be eligible, you must have at least 15 years of service. KRS will pay a contribution toward the premium based on how many years of service you have at retirement. For nonhazardous retirees, KRS pays \$10 toward the monthly premium for each full year of service the member has at retirement. Hazardous retirees receive \$15 toward the monthly premium for each full year of service at retirement. The amount KRS pays is subject to an annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). The examples below do not reflect the COLA.

Non-hazardous Example: If a non-hazardous member began participating January 1, 2014 and retires with 20 years of actual service, the contribution paid by KRS for insurance coverage is \$200 per month.

Hazardous Example: If a hazardous duty member began participating January 1, 2014 and retires with 20 years of actual hazardous service, the contribution paid by KRS for insurance coverage will be \$300 per month. Upon the member's death, the spouse, if eligible, would receive \$10 toward the monthly premium for each full year of service the retiree had at retirement.

Benefits for In Line of Duty and Duty Related beneficiaries may be different. If these benefits apply to you, please contact our office for more information.

Taxes

Monthly benefits from KRS are subject to federal income tax.

In Kentucky, retirement income from KRS benefits are subject to state income tax but may be excludable up to a certain amount. See Schedule P in the Kentucky income tax forms for the exclusion amount and calculation.

Leave

Sick leave, annual leave and compensatory time are not used to calculate benefits for members in the Cash Balance Plan.

Reciprocity

If you have service with more than one state administered retirement system in Kentucky, you may be able to combine service to determine eligibility for benefits and total service credit. Each system will pay a benefit based on the amount of service in that system. If you have an account in more than one of the systems listed below, you should contact KRS to determine the benefits you may be eligible to receive at retirement.

- Kentucky Employees Retirement System (KERS)
- County Employees Retirement System (CERS)
- State Police Retirement System (SPRS)
- Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System (KTRS)
- Judicial Retirement Plan (JRP)
- Legislators Retirement Plan (LRP)



Death Benefit

There is a \$5,000 death benefit for retired members who are receiving a monthly retirement payment. This benefit is not a form of insurance. With the \$5,000 death benefit, the member can name a beneficiary other than the person named for the monthly benefit. If you do not have a valid death benefit designation on file with our office, the benefit will default to your estate. This designation can be changed at any time before death.

New Members

When you are hired, your employer will submit information about your employment to our office. Once you are eligible to participate in KRS, your account will be created. Upon participation, you are required to complete a Form 2001, Membership Information Form. KRS will mail this form to you once your account is established. No benefit will be paid, including a refund of your account, until a completed Form 2001 is received in the KRS office.

Your employer should provide you with a Form 2035. If you do not have a valid Form 2035 on file with our office, the beneficiary of your member retirement account will be your estate.

Completed forms must be on file at our office in Frankfort to be valid. You can find the forms on our website at <https://kyret.ky.gov>.

Member ID

KRS has created a unique account number for all members known as the Member ID. Your Member ID may be six or seven digits. Your Member ID is your account number and is only valid when you are doing business with our office.

We use your Member ID to maintain your account and file information you submit to our office. Your Member ID is the identifying number on KRS forms and letters you receive from our office.

When you login to our self-service site, your Member ID will be the first item displayed on each page under your benefit account information.

PIN

KRS has also created a four-digit PIN which provides an added layer of security when you interact with KRS, whether online or over the phone. **YOU WILL NEED YOUR PIN** before we can discuss account information with you over the phone or to be able to access your account online.

When calling to discuss your account, you will need to provide your Member ID and PIN.

You can request a PIN by calling our office at 1-800-928-4646. Your PIN will be mailed to the address you have on file at KRS.

KRS is committed to protecting the confidentiality and security of your member data. KRS has developed and implemented policies and processes that safeguard your information which include assigning a Member ID and Personal Identification Number (PIN) to each member.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS

It is important to keep your address current with KRS. If your address changes, you **MUST** let your employer know as soon as possible. Your employer will notify KRS as part of their monthly reporting.

In addition to notifying your employer, you may also change your address online through Self Service at **MyRetirement.ky.gov** or by completing Form 2040, Change of Address.



Self Service

Self service offers you a convenient way to manage your account and prepare for retirement.

Registration is easy:

❶ Go to MyRetirement.ky.gov

This is the direct link to your self service account. You can also visit the KRS website at <https://kyret.ky.gov> to access the login page.

❷ Connect to Your Account

To register, you will enter your Social Security number, date of birth and PIN so we can identify your account. Your PIN was included in your Welcome letter when you were hired into a regular full time position. You will only be asked for your Social Security number and email during this initial registration.

❸ Create Login Information

We will ask you to create a User ID and Password, which you will use each time you login to your account. For additional security, you will answer a secret question. This answer will be used when you need to reset your User ID or Password.

When the setup steps are complete, you are ready to manage your retirement account online.



Benefits to Logging on to Self Service

- **Keep Contact Information Current**

KRS periodically sends out important information such as enrollment, tax information, and legislative changes which can affect your benefits, etc.

- **Review Beneficiary**

Easily see what you have on these forms. If you have a life change, download a Form 2035, complete, and mail in to avoid any complications that can result.

- **View Account History and Balance**

Review your service summary and accumulated account balance, including contributions, interest, and the Employer Pay Credit.

- **Download Forms**

When you download forms from Self Service, your forms come already filled in with your information.

- **Future Services**

As Tier 3 becomes more established, additional services to Self Service will be added.

Your Email

Please log into Member Self Service and keep your email address current. Email is the best way KRS has to keep you up to date with important retirement information.



Don't have a PIN?

Call our office and we can send your PIN via mail. PINs are assigned to you by our system; members do not have the option to select their own PIN.

The PIN is voided after 3 unsuccessful attempts to log in. If this happens, KRS cannot reset the same PIN and a new PIN must be issued by calling KRS.



Our Website

<https://kyret.ky.gov>

- Links to Member Education Videos
- Member Forms and Directions
- News & Updates
- Publications (*Recent and Archived*)

Self Service

MyRetirement.ky.gov

- Update your personal information
- Get your retirement information

Member Education

youtube.com/user/KentuckyRetire

- Video Library
 - How-to Videos
 - How to Retire
- Webinars & Town Halls
- On-location Outreach



 *Self Service*

Member Communications

www.Facebook.com/kyretirement

Twitter - @KYretire

- Up-to-date information as it happens
- New releases of videos & publications
- Instant notification of Webinars

Retirement Counselors

- **Call Center**
(with Call Back Assist)
Monday - Friday
8:00am - 4:30pm
1-502-696-8800
or 1-800-928-4646
- **On-site Counselors**
Perimeter Park West
1260 Louisville Road
Frankfort, KY 40601
- **Email**
krs.mail@kyret.ky.gov
General Questions only (*unsecure*)

Legal Notice

If you have any questions about the material printed in this publication, please contact Kentucky Retirement Systems at 1-800-928-4646. This publication is intended merely as a general information reference for members of KRS. If you have any specific questions about the subjects covered by this publication, you should contact the retirement office. This publication is not intended as a substitute for applicable federal or state law, nor will its interpretation prevail should a conflict arise between its contents and applicable federal or state law. Before making decisions about your retirement, you should contact Kentucky Retirement Systems.

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